

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-13 OMB-01 /079 W

-----250909Z 034110 /20

R 250517Z JAN 77

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4069

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BAGHDAD 0157

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR IZ KN

SUBJECT: NORTH KOREAN VISIT TO IRAQ

REF: (A) BAGHDAD 114, (B) SEOUL 406

1. FOLLOWING SHAKY START (BAGHDAD REFTTEL) OF NORTH KOREAN VISIT, IRAQIS PROVIDED FORMALLY CORRECT AND HIGH-LEVEL RECEPTION FOR THEIR GUESTS. PRESIDENT BAKR, WHO IS ALSO SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE BAATH PARTY REGIONAL COMMAND, RECEIVED PAK SUNG CHUL AND ACCEPTED A MESSAGE FROM KIM II SUNG. HIGH LEVEL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE REGIONAL COMMAND AND THE MINISTRIES OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND EXTERNAL TRADE JOINED THE FORMAL TALKS WITH THE NORTH KOREAN DELEGATION. THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION HOSTED A BANQUET, AND THERE WERE PREDICTABLE VERBAL EXCHANGES OF MUTUAL APPRECIATION. NATIONAL COMMAND ASSISTANT SYG SHIBLY AYSAMI SPOLE IN SUPPORT OF THE "DIPLOMATIC AND PEACEFUL STRUGGLE OF THE KOREAN PEOPLE FOR THE UNIFICATION OF KOREA." PRIME MINISTER PAK RECIPROCATED BY REAFFIRMING HIS COUNTRY'S SUPPORT FOR THE STRUGGLE OF THE PEOPLE OF PALESTINE. A DECISION WAS ANNOUNCED TO "FORM SEVERL SPECIALIZED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COMMITTEES TO DISCUSS ASPECTS OF COOPERATION".

2. FINALLY, ON JANUARY 22, PAK'S GOVERNMENT COUNTERPART, IRAQI STRONGMAN SADDAM HUSSEIN, RECEIVED THE PRIME MINISTER IN HIS OFFICE. IT IS NOW EXPECTED THAT KOREAN DELEGATION CAN GRACEFULLY DEPART. WE UNDERSTAND THAT PROTOCOL SNAFU DESCRIBED IN REF. A. MAY HAVE RESULTED

WHEN THE KOREANS CHOSE TO RECIPROCATATE A PAST VISIT TO  
PYONGYANG OF A BAATH PARTY DELEGATION BY SENDING A  
HIGHER LEVEL DELEGATION CALIBRATED TO GAIN AN AUDIENCE  
WITH SADDAM HUSSEIN. IF SO, THE KOREANS RAN AFOUL OF  
LOCAL SENSITIVITIES BY MAKING THEIR ARRANGEMENTS SOLELY  
THROUGH PARTY CHANNELYS.

3. COMMENT: MEDIA COVERAGE WAS HEAVY, BUT IT IS NOT  
CLEAR THAT THE VISIT HAD SIGNIFICANCE BEYOND PROVIDING  
BAATHI AND NORTH KOREAN IDEOLOGUES AN OPPORTUNITY TO  
FLEX THEIR RHETORICAL MUSCLES.  
WILEY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977BAGHDA00157  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Office:** ACTION EA  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Reference:** 77 BAGHDAD 114, 77 SEOUL 406  
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**Subject:** NORTH KOREAN VISIT TO IRAQ  
**TAGS:** PFOR, IZ, KN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009